

File No. 152/321/6/77

EMBASSY OF INDIA

ISLAMABAD

Correspondence/Note

SUBJECT

The Perpetuation of the Memory of
Netaji Subhash Chander Bose -
Points raised by Shri Samar Guha, M.P.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

LATER REFERENCE

DECLASSIFIED

58537

(गौतम गुप्ता)
(GAUTAM GUPTA)
उप सचिव (ए एंड एफ. ए.)
By Secretary (A & F. A.)
Ministry of External Affairs
(New Delhi)

Keep
16/1/75
RECEIVED
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF INDIA

Embassy of India
Islamabad

D.No. 576/FS(I&C)/77 - FR (placed below)

Portions sidelined A&B relate to Pakistan.
Ambassador may kindly see for instructions whether
we should refer this to the Foreign Office.

M. Khanna

(O.P. Khanna)
4.8.1977

Counsellor
Ambassador

576/FS(I&C)/77
Mrs. Meera Sathyan.
W/o. Devi Chandra
Subbaray
By Mr. Lieke
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And.
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576/1325/77

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MOST IMMEDIATE

23(149)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(Coordination Division)

No.AA/125/40/77

July 23, 1977

Shri Samar Guha, M.P., during the Debate on Demands for Grants of the External Affairs Ministry in Lok Sabha on June 29, 1977, raised several points regarding the perpetuation of the Memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and had made a number of suggestions with financial and other implications. However, the first task is to collect information, documents and other material, wherever freely available, from different countries in the world.

2. After collection of accurate information on the various points raised by Shri Guha and the location of documents, material, etc. which will have to be acquired, wherever possible, the financial implications of the project will have to be considered by the Ministry in consultation with the Ministries concerned, especially with the Ministry of Finance for release of funds.

3. The Mission concerned is requested to take follow-up action, without financial implications, and send their replies to the Co-ordination Division, with copy endorsed to the Territorial Division concerned

J. T. Kaliukaren
(J.T.KALIUKAREN)
Director (Coord)

Ambassador/High Commission of India,
Tokyo/Djakarta/Kuala Lumpur/Rangoon/Singapore/
Bangkok/Islamabad/Kabul/Bonn/Berlin (GDR)/Rome/London/
Moscow/Washington.

Copy to :

JS(S)/JS(N&EA)/JS(PAKAF)/JS(AMS)/JS(EE)/
JS(EW)/JS(AD)/Director(Coord)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(Coordination Division)

SUGGESTIONS MADE REGARDING NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

The following points were made during the course of the Debate on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs in Lok Sabha on June 29, 1977.

Shri Samar Guha blamed the previous Governments for not honouring the "greatest revolutionary of India" Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and neglecting either to collect his revolutionary relics or preserve them for posterity. He therefore urged FM to do the following things:

(i) Collect from the archives of Japan, East and West Germany, U.K., USA, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, Thailand, Italy and some other countries where, according to him, "there are still many documents and much material connected with other revolutions that were brought about, inspired by the leadership of Netaji". (Lok Sabha Debates, Part II, June 29, 1977, Uncorrected).

(ii) Rebuild the damaged INA Martyrs Memorial in Singapore built by Netaji in July 1945 and demolished by Mountbatten. According to Shri Guha, the Foreign Minister of Singapore was a man who was a member of the INA and fought with Netaji and, therefore, he suggested that an appeal be made to the Government of Singapore to be allowed to rebuild that monument.

He said that Shri Shah Nawaz Khan had admitted that he had brought part of the demolished monument and left it in his Rawalpindi house. Shri Guha requested the Government to send Shri Shah Nawaz Khan to his home so that those parts of the demolished martyrs' memorial that he brought from Singapore can be brought to India and reconstructed in a martyrs' memorial in honour of the INA, somewhere in the heart of Delhi.

- (iii) The headquarter building of the Azad Hind Government and the residential quarters of Netaji, according to Shri Guha, are still there in the sea beach of Singapore and, therefore, he urged FM to persuade the Government of Singapore to sell it to us so that we could set up there the headquarters of an Indian Cultural Mission for the whole of South-East Asia.
- (iv) Shri Guha said that there were many places connected with the history of Netaji and INA activities in Malaysia and small plates can be put up to that effect in these places as well as in such other places in Thailand, Indonesia, etc.
- (v) The advance headquarters of the Azad Hind Fauj were, according to Shri Guha, set up at Jarawardi Sugar Estate near Rangoon. That building should be purchased by the Government of India. He added that Gen. Ne Win was an admirer of Netaji and therefore, he thought that there would be no difficulty to find those buildings and buy them.
- (vi) Shri Guha said that Netaji had taken a pledge before the tomb of Bahadur Shah Zafar that after India's liberation the Emperor's remains will be taken back to India and re-buried with national honour. Netaji had also pledged that a mausoleum would be built at Red Fort. Shri Guha wanted FM to fulfil that pledge.
- (vii) Place plaques at places in Peshawar and Kabul where Netaji stayed in the course of his escape from India to Germany.
- (viii) Shri Guha said that Gen. Mac Arthur and Lord Mountbatten's Hqs. had made vital enquiries into Netaji's death in an air crash. These reports should be obtained from UK and USA.
- (ix) Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, after occupying Taiwan, had also undertaken an enquiry about a reported air crash at Taihako. This report should also be obtained from the Government of Taiwan.
- (x) Only 3 pages of Lord Mountbatten's diary, according to Shri Guha, were supplied to the Khosla Commission. Even those three pages revealed startling facts that

Lord Mountbatten received a report from the British mission in China that Netaji Subhas Bose did not die in the plane crash. Then the British intelligence sent a report to Mountbatten that he escaped. If the full diary of Lord Mountbatten could be obtained many more startling things would have come to light (Ibid).

- (xi) Shri Guha said that another ~~English~~ thing came before the Khosla and Shah Nawaz Commissions and added: "It was an intelligence report to the Government of India that the Russian Ambassador in Kabul and a Russian Vice-Consul in Tehran, both of them publicly admitted in 1946 that Netaji Subhas Bose reached Moscow. This was a report of our Intelligence Wing to the Government of India that was sent from Kabul and Tehran. That is on record and it is with the Khosla Commission as well as the Shah Nawaz Commission. I would request that Hon. Minister to find out whether it can be had from the Government of USSR as to what actually happened because it has been admitted both by Shah Nawaz Commission as well as Khosla Commission that the destination of Netaji was Russia.



Indrajit Singh,
Deputy Secretary (Pakaf)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

No.PAF/125/8/77-Pt,

August 23, 1977.

Dear Shri Khanna,

684/500/77
✓
sl(1)
✓ Please refer to Coordination Division's circular No.AA/125/40/77, dated 23 July 1977, addressed to Ambassador/High Commissioners regarding Shri Samar Guha's desire to perpetuate the memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In this connection, he indicated that Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, former Deputy Minister of Railways had admitted that he had brought part of the demolished INA martyrs memorial monument from Singapore which had been built in Singapore by Netaji in 1945 and demolished by Mountbatten. According to Shri Guha, Shri Nawaz Khan had left it in his Rawalpindi house. Shri Guha has requested Government to send Shri Nawaz Khan to his house so that parts of the demolished monument can be brought back to India and reconstructed in honour of the INA in the heart of Delhi.

2. You are requested to make discrete enquiries whether Shri Shah Nawaz Khan has indeed a house in Rawalpindi which continues to be in his possession and if so, whether it has any ~~remains~~ ^{parts} of the monuments brought back from Singapore, after all these years.

Yours sincerely,

Indrajit

(Indrajit Singh)

Shri O.P. Khanna,
First Secretary (Inf.),
Embassy of India,
Islamabad.

1051/125
No. 4160/152/125/125
12/12
sl. (3)

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. AA/125/40/77
Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
(Co-ordination Dn.)

...

New Delhi, the 6th October, 1977.

Dear Mission,

Please refer to Note No. AA/125/40/77 dated the 23rd July, 1977 sent to you by Director (Co-ordination) regarding points raised by Shri Samar Guha, M.P., during the Debate on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs in the Lok Sabha on June 29, 1977 for the perpetuation of the Memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. We shall be grateful if your reply is sent to us at the earliest possible.

Yours ever,

Ministry.

The Embassy of India, Djakarta/Rangoon/Singapore/Islamabad/
Berlin (GDR)/Rome/Moscow.

~~The High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur.~~

Adm 12943/77
dt. 28-7-77

Pls see line
you.
K.S. 13/7
Counselor.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. ISL/COUNS/1386/77

October 20, 1977.

Dear Ministry,

Please refer to your reminder No. AA/125/40/77 dated the 6th October 1977, regarding the points raised by Shri Samar Guha, M.P.

2. In view of Pakistani sensitivities, it was decided not to convey our request in writing. However, it was conveyed to them orally that

- (a) the Government of India were considering the installation of a plaque at the place in Peshawar where Netaji stayed, and
- (b) the Government of India were considering the recovery of those parts of the demolished martyrs' memorial that Shri Shah Nawaz Khan reportedly installed in his Rawalpindi house.

3. The concerned officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has promised to examine the proposals. As soon as a reply is conveyed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Pakistan, the same will be communicated to the Ministry.

Yours ever

The Ministry of External Affairs,
Coordination Division,
New Delhi.

The matter was discussed by Mr. Doshi with Mr. Najmuddin Sheikh at the weekly meeting which took place today, i.e. 20.10.77

1140/125/77
K. Doshi
Counsellor

Embassy of India
Islamabad

No. ISL/COUNS/1446/77

sl ⑤
November 3, 1977

My dear

sl ②
Please refer to your letter No. PAF/125/8-77-Pt dated August 23, 1977, the Coordination Division's circular No. AA/125/40/77 dated the 23rd July 1977 and the Coordination Division's subsequent reminder of even number dated the 6th October 1977, regarding the perpetuation of the memory of Netaji.

2. On Monday the 31st October 1977, I met Mr. Najmuddin Shaikh in some other connection. I reminded him about our proposal to construct a memorial for Netaji at Peshawar. He said that the matter has been considered but he regrets that the Government of Pakistan cannot accede to the same. I did not press him for amplification.

3. I have also made discreet enquiries about the recovery of those parts of the demolished martyrs' memorial that Shri Shah Nawaz Khan reportedly installed in his Rawalpindi house. So far I have been able to come up with nothing. If you want me to make any worthwhile enquiries, you will have to send me further details, e.g., the precise address, etc.

4. I am endorsing a copy of this letter to the Coordination Division also.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(K. Doshi)

Shri Indrajit Singh,
Deputy Secretary (Pak-Iraf),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

MB
12.11.77
MCW
Copy to the Ministry of External Affairs,
Coordination Division, New Delhi.

hauz
(K. Doshi)
Counsellor
9

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEW DELHI-11



No.

J/125/35/78

June 16, 1978

Dear Kiran,

88(5)
Please refer to the correspondence resting with your letter no. Isl/Couns/1446/77, dated November 3, 1977 (para 3) regarding a piece of the INA Martyrs Memorial which Shri Shah Nawaz Khan had left behind in Pakistan.

2. We have heard from Shri Khan to the effect that the address of his erstwhile house in Rawalpindi is Village & P.O. Matore, Tehsil Kahuta. The house is at present occupied by his brother Col. (Retd) Mohd. Nawaz Khan.

3. According to Shri Khan, the background is, briefly, that during Pandit Nehru's visit to Malaya in 1946, he was given inter-alia, a small piece of marble (approx. 8" x 4") which was said to be a part of the foundation stone of the Shahid Memorial led by Netaji in 1945 in Singapore. (The Memorial had been dynamited by the British forces soon after they reoccupied Singapore; some Indians picked up this piece which they presented to Pandit Nehru). On Pandit Nehru's return, he handed the marble piece to Shri Khan who was instructed by Sardar Patel, then the Treasurer of the Congress Party and the INA Relief Fund, to retain it in safe custody. He took it to his residence in Rawalpindi and locked it in a steel box. During 1946-47, Shri Khan was busy in India. In 1948, he visited Pakistan for a short while and found that the marble piece was still there. He was evacuated from Pakistan shortly after Gandhiji's assassination. His wife and children stayed on until 1952 when they were evacuated. He has no information about what happened thereafter to the marble piece which remained in the house. The house was unoccupied but looked after by Shri Khan's relatives. Col. (Retd) Khan reoccupied the house in 1978, having retired from Batas sometime in 1976.

4. Would it now be possible to have some discreet inquiries on the subject and let us know your findings?

Secret

- 2 -

5. Shri Khan also mentioned in conclusion, that " I have applied for a visa to Matore in Rawalpindi, and if it is sanctioned, I will personally make every effort to trace it out. My application for a visa is still pending with the Pakistan Embassy." We are trying to ascertain the details so that the visa could be expedited.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

heele
(L.K.Ponappa)

Shri K.Doshi,
Counsellor,
Embassy of India,
Islamabad.

SECRET

K. Doshi
COUNSELLOR

No. Isl | 321/6/77

sl-6

June 26, 1978

Reference your letter No. J/125/35/78 dated the 16th June 1978 regarding a piece of the I.N.A. Martyrs' Memorial.

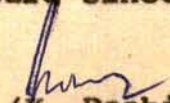
2. Para 3 of your letter describes how the piece is probably still in the house currently occupied by Col. (Retd.) Khan. Para 4 of your letter, however, enquires whether some discreet enquiries on the subject can be made. I would not advocate this course of action. Any discreet enquiry on our part may do no better than get Col. Khan into trouble.

3. Two courses of action are possible:

- (a) When Shri Shah Nawaz Khan comes to Pakistan he can, without any trouble, go to the house, locate the piece and return to India with it; or
- (b) we make a formal request to the Foreign office for this souvenir.

Awaiting your reply,

Yours sincerely,


(K. Doshi)

Mrs. Leela K. Ponappa,
Under Secretary (Pak-Iraf)-P,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.



954/Couns/78
26/12
Indrajit Singh,
Deputy Secretary (Pak-Iraf).

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

No. J/125/129/78

December 18, 1978.

My dear *Let's*

81(5)
Please refer to the correspondence resting with Kiran Doshi's letter No. ISL/COUNS/1446/77, dated November 3, 1977.

2. We are answering a Parliament question whether Government have succeeded in locating the place where Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose stayed in Pakistan in the course of his historic escape from India to Germany. While your letter No. ISL/COUNS/1386/77, dated October 20, 1977, had replied Coordination Division's circular indicating that it has been orally conveyed to Pakistan that Government were considering installation of a plaque at the place in Peshawar where Netaji stayed, it is not clear from this letter whether the place where he stayed in Peshawar is precisely known or not. In response to the Parliament question, we are replying that the location in Pakistan where he may have stayed is being ascertained. If any authentic information is available with you, kindly let us have it to liquidate the Assurance and if not, please make urgent efforts to obtain it.

URGENT

PPS

26/12

N40

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Indra
(INDRAJIT SINGH)

Shri S.K. Lambah,
Counsellor,
Embassy of India,
Islamabad.

Secret.

S.K. Lambah
Counsellor.

No.ISL/321/6/77

December 26, 1978

Dear Indrajit,

I have to-day received your letter No.J/125/129/78 dated December 18, 1978 in which you have referred to our letter No.ISL/COUNS/1386/77 dated October 20, 1977. It appears that you have not seen the subsequent correspondence on the subject namely (i) letter No.ISL/COUNS/1446/77 dated November 3, 1977 from Kiran Doshi to you but acknowledged by Leila Ponappa vide her (ii) letter No.J/125/35/78 dated June 16, 1978 to Kiran Doshi from Leila Ponappa; and (iii) Kiran Doshi's letter No.ISL/321/6/77 dated June 26, 1978. You will find that the Director-General in the Pakistan Foreign Office had told Kiran Doshi that it was not possible for the Government of Pakistan to accede to our request for installation of a plaque at the place in Peshwar where Netaji stayed. I find from the papers that at no time had we been asked to ascertain the exact place where Netaji stayed in Peshawar as presumably that was already known. In case you need any further information, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,


(S.K. Lambah)

Shri Indrajit Singh,
Deputy Secretary(Pak-Iref),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.